

03-14-05

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

David M. Tucker et al.

Serial No: 10/716,248

Filed: 02/13/2003

Title: Subsea Vehicle Assisted
Pipeline Commissioning Method

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Art Unit 2856

Examiner:
Garber, Charles D.

Attorney Docket
VCSre

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22312-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of 12/15/2004, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the rejections made in light of the following remarks.

The rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 6 and 9 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bliss et al. (US Patent 5,883,303) in view of Graves (US Patent 5,927,901) and Matthews, Jr. (US Patent 3,777,499) is respectfully traversed.

The major difference of the reissue claims, over the claims in the original Patent which recite "pumps", is to assert broader claims to which Applicants are entitled. For example, Claim 1 of this reissue application recites in line 4 "...one